

Revival of HMT

1430. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any revival package for the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., Kalamassery, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government on the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) HMT Machine Tools Ltd. has been incorporated as subsidiary of HMT Ltd. since April 1, 2000 and comprises Machine Tools complexes located at Bangalore, Kakamassery, Hyderabad, Ajmer & Pinjore. A comprehensive revival plan in respect of the subsidiary has been formulated by the company which includes capital expenditure, repayment of VRS loans and long term loans and discharge of other liabilities.

(c) The Revival proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Exploration of Coal Bed Methane in Gujarat

1431. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Block was awarded to the State of Gujarat in 2004;

(b) whether it is a fact that ONGC has not taken concrete steps to start the drilling activity in the CBM Block;

(c) whether the State Government of Gujarat has requested the Central Government to induct a third partner for this Block in order to get the exploration and production started at the earliest; and

(d) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.